

Remarks

Claims 1-34 are pending and at issue in the present application. Claims 30-34 have been indicated allowable, while claims 7-9, 17-20, and 29 have been indicated allowable if rewritten in independent form. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, claims 7, 8, 17, and 29 have been so rewritten without narrowing the scope of any of these claims, and on the basis of this amendment, applicants traverse the objection to claims 7-9, 17-20, and 29.

Applicants further traverse the rejection of claims 1-6, 10-16, and 21-28 as anticipated by Bostic et al.

Claim 1 as amended, and claims 2-6 and 9-14 dependent thereon, specify, *inter alia*, pressure relief apparatus operable to limit pressure increase in a sealed cavity in which a coolant is disposed.

Claim 15 as amended, and claims 16, 18-26, and 28 dependent thereon, specify "a joined section that joins the first and second container portions wherein the joined section is operable to limit pressure increase within the cavity."

Bostic et al. does not disclose or suggest pressure relief apparatus or a joined section operable to limit pressure increase in a sealed cavity in which a coolant is disposed. Rather, Bostic et al. teaches a chest 10 having chambers 12 and 70 that may be evacuated in order to enhance the insulative properties of the chest 10. In this regard, the chest 10 has a cover 11 that covers the interior chamber 12. The chamber 12 may accommodate food or other perishables. The cover 11 includes a conduit 35. Air may be evacuated from the chamber 12 by the conduit 35. In addition, walls 19 and 20 of the chest 10 define a chamber 70 that surrounds the interior chamber 12. The chamber 70 is filled with foam insulation 21 and is evacuated by use of a conduit 28.

Because the prior art does not disclose each of the elements recited by the claims at issue, it follows that such claims are not anticipated thereby.

Further, because none of the prior art discloses or suggests pressure relief apparatus or a joined section operable to limit pressure in a sealed cavity in which a coolant is disposed, it also follows that the claims at issue are not obvious thereover. The prior art must disclose at least a suggestion of an incentive for the claimed combination of elements in order for a

*prima facie* case of obviousness to be established. See *In re Sernaker*, 217, U.S.P.Q. 1 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *Ex Parte Clapp*, 227 U.S.P.Q. 972, 973 (Bd. Pat. App. 1985).

The claims have been amended to further define the subject matter for which protection is sought, and this amendment does not narrow the scope of the claimed subject matter.

Attached hereto, as pages 7-9, is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment.

Also submitted herewith is a paper entitled "Request for Approval of Drawing Changes" which seeks approval for changes to Figs. 4 and 6-9.

Reconsideration and allowance of the foregoing claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Claims With Markings To Show Changes Made

1. (Amended) A container, comprising:  
a first container portion;  
a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a sealed cavity therebetween;  
a coolant disposed within the cavity; and  
pressure relief apparatus operable to limit pressure increase in the sealed cavity.
  
7. (Amended) [The container of claim 6, wherein] A container, comprising:  
a first container portion;  
a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a sealed cavity therebetween;  
a coolant disposed within the cavity; and  
a joined section that joins the first and second container portions wherein the joined section ruptures in response to an elevated pressure in the sealed cavity to limit pressure in the cavity, the joined section [includes] including a first connection region that ruptures at a first pressure and a second connection region that is rupturable at a second pressure greater than the first pressure.
  
8. (Amended) [The container of claim 1,] A container, comprising:  
a first container portion;  
a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a sealed cavity therebetween;  
a coolant disposed within the cavity; and  
pressure relief apparatus operable to limit pressure in the sealed cavity wherein the pressure relief apparatus comprises a joined section that joins the first and second container portions and wherein the joined section ruptures in response to an elevated temperature in the sealed cavity to limit pressure in the cavity.

15. (Amended) A container, comprising:  
a first container portion;  
a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a sealed cavity therebetween;  
a coolant disposed within the cavity; and  
a joined section that joins the first and second container portions wherein the joined section is operable to limit pressure increase within the cavity.
17. (Amended) [The container of claim 15] A container, comprising:  
a first container portion;  
a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a sealed cavity therebetween;  
a coolant disposed within the cavity; and  
a joined section that joins the first and second container portions wherein the joined section ruptures in response to an elevated temperature to limit pressure within the cavity.
27. (Amended) The container of claim 15, wherein the first container portion further comprises a first wall having a base portion and a first rim and wherein the second container portion comprises a second wall having a second rim and wherein the second rim is joined to the first rim.

29. (Amended) [The container of claim 28, wherein] A container, comprising:  
a first container portion;  
a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a  
sealed cavity therebetween;  
a cross-linked gel coolant disposed within the cavity; and  
a joined section that joins the first and second container portions wherein the  
joined section is operable to limit pressure within the cavity;  
the first container portion further comprising a first wall having a base portion  
and a first rim and wherein the second container portion comprises a second wall having a  
second rim and wherein the second rim is joined to the first rim; and  
the second wall further [comprises] comprising a first raised portion joined to  
the base portion that is rupturable in response to a first elevated pressure and a second raised  
portion joined to the base portion that is rupturable at a second elevated pressure greater than  
the first elevated pressure.